

anti-Russian, anti-Austrian and Prussophil. Realising that the Bund was unsatisfying and that Prussia was bound to expand, he declared that, if he were a German, he would be an ardent champion of German unity. The Duke was present when Orsini's bombs' exploded as the Emperor and Empress arrived at the Opera, and he notes that the latter was the quickest to recover her composure.

Of the Prince Consort he writes with affectionate admiration, and the correspondence between the brothers fills many pages. Shortly before his fatal illness Albert visited Gotha. He was in low spirits and appeared to have a presentiment of death. One day he burst into tears, explaining that he knew he would never see his old German home again. The Duke was warmly attached to William I and his family, and he highly respected Francis Joseph. He saw a good deal of the campaign of 1866, and in 1867 he visited the exhibition at Paris, where he found the Emperor depressed by the Mexican

*dtbfcl*. " I took leave of him as from a sick man who was with difficulty holding himself erect under overwhelming blows. When I saw him again he was himself a prisoner of the German army on the day after Sedan." Ernst was present at the proclamation of the German Empire in the Galeries des Glaces, and the story ends with an expression of gratitude and pride to have been allowed to take part in the making of a nation. " The complete inward change which has come over the German, who now holds intercourse with all great nations and stands at the helm of the ship which cuts boldly through the ocean flood, can only be conceived if we reflect on the long series of years in which this change has been wrought."

Smile Ollivier, like Beust, owes his fame to Bismarck, and, like Beust, spent the later years of his long life in describing the conflict which led to his eclipse. *L' Empire I^ibSral> Etudes,*

*Récits, Souvenirs* is on the border-line between autobiography and history. The sixteen massive volumes, each of some six hundred pages, are as indispensable for the study of the Second Empire as the *magnum opus* of La Gorce, - for. they contain a mass of first-hand material. On the other hand the author often disappears, for whole chapters at a time, for instance while the Italian campaign, the Mexican fiasco, or the Vatican Council are described at length. Not till we are within sight of the end does he become a leading actor on the European stage, but in the closing months, from January 1870 to the outbreak of war, we hang upon his lips. The book is far